

1345.4 - SA Stats, Nov 2009

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 24/11/2009

Summary

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Feature Articles

Perceptions of Crime and Safety in South Australia



Demography

Includes: **Estimated resident population, Components of population change**
South Australia's population increased by 18,600 during the year ended 31 March 2009.



Labour Force

Includes: **Contents, Employed persons, Unemployment, Participation rate**
Trend unemployment rate for South Australia lower than the national rate.



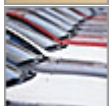
Incomes

Includes: **Average weekly earnings**
In the year ended August 2009 average weekly full time earnings in South Australia grew by 5.1% compared to 5.4% nationally.



State Accounts

Includes: **State accounts, Household final consumption expenditure (HFCE)**
In trend terms, South Australia has strongest growth in State Final Demand in the June quarter 2009.



Consumption

Includes: **Retail trade, New motor vehicle sales**
Despite the global financial crisis, South Australian expenditure on clothes and dining out increased in the year to September 2009.



Investment

Includes: **Private new capital expenditure, Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure**
Exploration expenditure on Uranium accounts for more than half of all mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia in the June quarter 2009.



Construction

Includes: **Building approvals, Construction work done**
In trend terms, the total number of dwelling units approved relatively stable in 2009.



Price Indexes

Includes: **Contents, Consumer price index, Wage price index, House price index**
Adelaide's house price index rises for the second consecutive quarter.



Housing Finance

Includes: **Housing finance commitments**
Average home loan size in South Australia substantially lower than the national average.



International Merchandise Trade

Includes: **Exports and Imports**
The value of South Australia's merchandise exports was \$683m in September 2009.



Water

Includes: **Rainfall, Reservoir levels**
Water storage in Adelaide's reservoirs rises to 92% of capacity by the end of October 2009.

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FORTHCOMING ISSUES

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Release Date

22 December 2009

27 January 2010

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WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH

Topics which have been updated with new data in this month's issue of **SA Stats** include: Construction; Consumption; Housing Finance; Incomes; International Merchandise Trade; Labour Force; Price Indexes; and Water.

This month's **SA Stats** includes an article on crime and safety in South Australia. Feelings of safety and security are important determinants in the well-being of individuals and communities. Using data from a variety of ABS sources, this article presents a comparison of the perceptions of crime and safety that are held by South Australians with those of the broader Australian community and highlights some factors that have the potential to influence perceptions. Further, it examines the relationship between perceptions of safety and the actual incidence of crime in South Australia.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or James Inglis on Adelaide (08) 8237 7405, or email sa.statistics@abs.gov.au.

Feature Articles



FEATURE ARTICLES

Nov 2009	Perceptions of Crime and Safety in South Australia
Oct 2009	Who's Not in the Labour Force?
Sep 2009	One parent families with dependent children in South Australia
Aug 2009	Heating and Cooling

Jul 2009	What are South Australians Studying?
Jun 2009	Water Efficiency in South Australia's Vineyards
May 2009	Journey to Work in the City of Adelaide
Apr 2009	Housing Finance - First Home Buyers and Other Borrowers
Feb 2009	Recent Increases in South Australia's Fertility
Jan 2009	South Australian Household Final Consumption Expenditure
2008	
Dec 2008	Energy Consumption in South Australia
Nov 2008	Adelaide's Population Turnover
Oct 2008	Contributors to Adelaide's Price Rises
Sep 2008	<u>Adelaide's Suburbs of Advantage and Disadvantage</u>
Aug 2008	South Australia's Agriculture Industry
July 2008	<u>New Dwelling Approvals in South Australia</u>
May 2008	<u>Literacy of South Australians</u>
April 2008	<u>South Australia's Migrant Population</u>
	<u>South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force</u>
Feb 2008	<u>South Australia's Mining Industry</u>
	<u>Water Supply in South Australia</u>
Jan 2008	<u>Labour Force Underutilisation and the Underemployed in South Australia</u>
	<u>Water Use in Agriculture - A South Australian Perspective</u>
2007	
Nov 2007	<u>Sports Attendance in South Australia</u>
	<u>Recorded Crime - Victims, South Australia, 2006</u>
Oct 2007	<u>Attendance at Cultural Venues and Events by South Australians</u>
Aug 2007	<u>Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities - South Australia, 2006</u>
Jul 2007	<u>South Australia's big picture: Census highlights the changes in South Australian society</u>
	<u>Participation in Sports and Physical Recreation Activities - South Australia</u>
May 2007	<u>Health of South Australians - Body Mass</u>
	<u>Household Use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
Apr 2007	<u>Employment in the Retail Trade Industry in South Australia</u>
	<u>River Murray - South Australia</u>
Mar 2007	<u>Household Waste Management in South Australia</u>
Feb 2007	<u>Births - South Australia</u>
Jan 2007	<u>Gross Domestic Product and Gross State Product</u>
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Dec 2006	<u>Rainfall in South Australia, South Australian Reservoirs, Water Consumption</u>
Nov 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health related actions</u>
Oct 2006	<u>National Regional Profile - New Release, New Features</u>
Sep 2006	<u>Fuel Production and Consumption, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use Change and Forestry</u>
Aug 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Risk Behaviours</u>
	<u>The South Australian Grape Industry</u>
Jul 2006	<u>Use of IT By Australian Businesses</u>
	<u>Household use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
May 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Status</u>
Apr 2006	<u>International Trade in Services</u>
	<u>International Students in South Australia</u>
Feb 2006	<u>Labour Force and Other Characteristics of Migrants in South Australia</u>
Jan 2006	<u>Survey of work in selected Culture & Leisure Activities</u>
2005	
Nov 2005	<u>Household Income in South Australia</u>

	<u>Household Expenditure in South Australia</u>
Oct 2005	<u>SA Business and Innovation</u>
	<u>Recent History of Population change in South Australia, 1993-94 to 2003-04</u>
Aug 2005	<u>Average Weekly Earnings</u>
	<u>Transition from School</u>

Demography



DEMOGRAPHY

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

The estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,618,200 at 31 March 2009, an increase of about 18,600 persons (1.2%) since 31 March 2008. Nationally, the ERP was 21,779,100 at 31 March 2009, an increase of about 439,100 persons (2.1%) since 31 March 2008.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Preliminary data

	Population at end March quarter 2009 '000	Change over previous year '000	Change over previous year %
New South Wales	7 076.5	112.5	1.6
Victoria	5 402.6	111.9	2.1
Queensland	4 380.4	112.7	2.6
South Australia	1 618.2	18.6	1.2
Western Australia	2 224.3	67.6	3.1
Tasmania	501.8	5.0	1.0
Northern Territory	223.1	4.8	2.2
Australian Capital Territory	349.9	6.0	1.8
Australia(a)	21 779.1	439.1	2.1

(a) Includes Other Territories comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.
Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

In 2007-08, the South Australian Statistical Division (SD) with the largest percentage increase in ERP was Outer Adelaide (2.0%) followed by Adelaide (1.1%).

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION(a), By Statistical Division, South Australia

	2007		2008	
	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	1 159.1	1.2	1 172.1	1.1
Outer Adelaide	131.4	2.1	134.1	2.0
Yorke and Lower North	45.9	1.0	46.4	1.0
Murray Lands	69.8	0.5	70.1	0.4

South East	64.9	0.6	65.4	0.8
Eyre	35.0	0.5	35.2	0.5
Northern	79.6	0.7	80.1	0.6
South Australia	1 585.8	1.1	1 603.4	1.1

(a) Estimates for 2007 are revised to align with new 2007 state and territory totals and estimates for 2008 are preliminary.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia 2007-08 (cat. no. 3218.0).

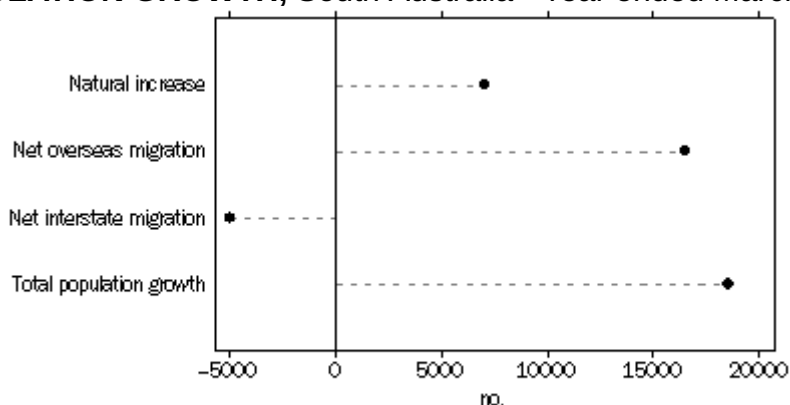
[Map of South Australia's Statistical Divisions\(PDF 2.44MB\)](#)

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

For the year ended 31 March 2009, South Australia recorded a natural increase (i.e. the net of births and deaths) of 7,048 persons. Net overseas migration provided a gain of 16,536 persons in the same period while net interstate migration realised a loss of 4,988 persons.

For the year ended 31 March 2009, Australia recorded a natural increase in population of 160,822 persons; net overseas migration resulted in a gain of 278,239 people.

POPULATION GROWTH, South Australia - Year ended March 2009



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

CONTENTS

[Employed persons](#)

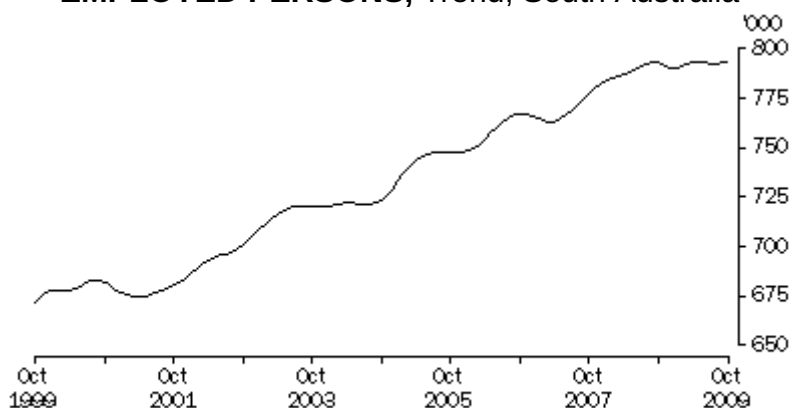
[Unemployment](#)

[Participation rate](#)

EMPLOYED PERSONS

In trend terms, the total number of persons employed in South Australia has remained relatively steady through most of 2009 and was 793,300 in October 2009. The total number of persons employed in Australia in October 2009 was 10,807,900, an increase of 8,600 on the number employed in September 2009 (10,799,300).

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Trend, South Australia



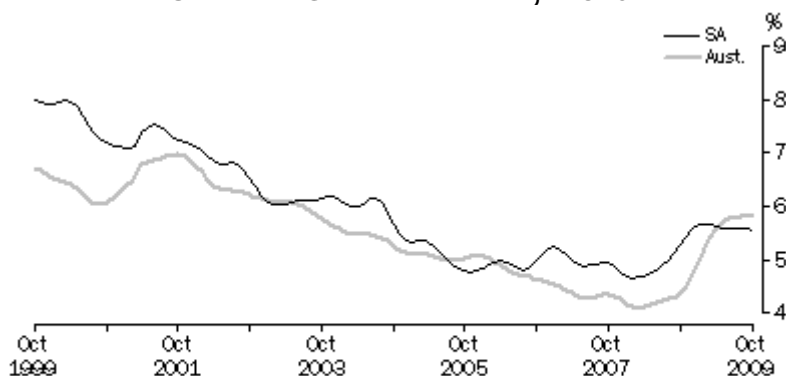
Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

The number of males employed full-time in South Australia in October 2009 was 342,400 (in trend terms), a slight decrease from the previous month (342,700). Looking at the composition of all male employees, those working full time accounted for 80.4% of the male workforce, down from 84.6% in October 2008. The number of females employed full-time in South Australia also fell between September and October 2009, from 181,100 to 179,900. Full-time female employees accounted for 48.9% of the female workforce in October 2009, down from 50.0% in October of the previous year.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The trend estimate unemployment rates for South Australia and Australia in October 2009 were 5.6% and 5.8% respectively. Both rates have held steady since June 2009 and South Australia's rate has been lower than the national rate for the last six months.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Trend



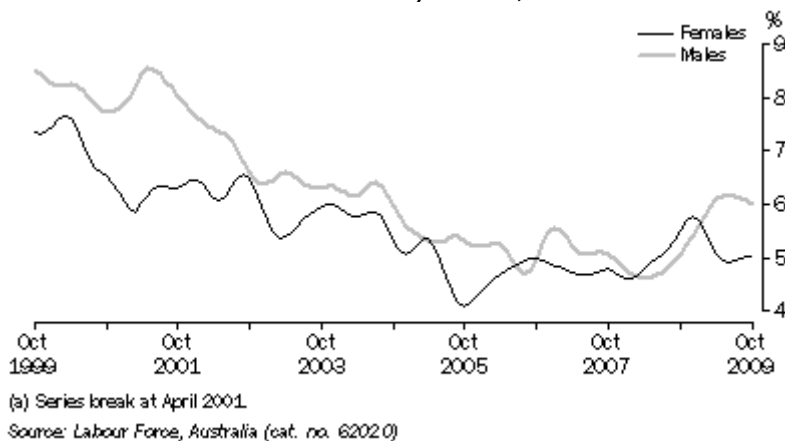
(a) Series break at April 2001.

Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

In October 2009 the trend unemployment rate for males in South Australia decreased

slightly from 6.1% to 6.0%. The unemployment rate for Australian males (in trend terms) has remained relatively stable at 6.0% since June 2009. Following a period of sharp decline between December 2008 and June 2009, where the estimate fell from 5.8% to 4.9%, the trend unemployment rate for South Australian females has risen slightly to be 5.0% in October 2009. By contrast, the national unemployment rate for females (in trend terms) has risen from 5.0% in January 2009 to 5.6% in October 2009.

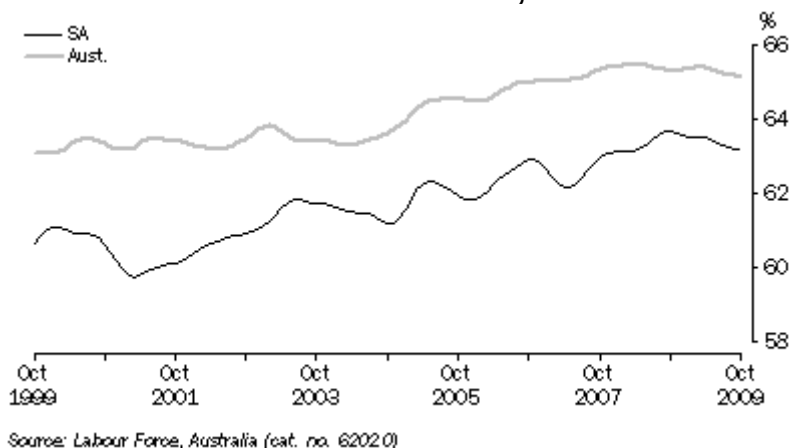
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Trend, South Australia



PARTICIPATION RATE

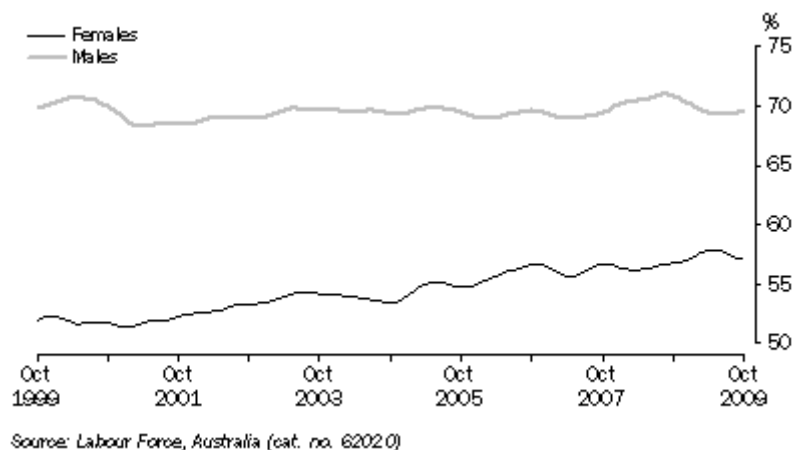
The trend estimate of the participation rate for South Australia was 63.2% in October 2009; down from the peak of 63.7% recorded in October 2008. Australia's trend participation rate has been relatively stable over the same period and was 65.2% in October 2009.

PARTICIPATION RATE, Trend



In South Australia, the participation rate for males rose slightly (0.1%) to be 69.6% in October 2009. The Australian participation rate for males remained at 72.1% for the fourth consecutive month. In contrast to the movement in the male series, the participation rate for South Australian females has continued to fall. From a peak of 57.9% in April and May 2009 the estimate has fallen to 57.1% in October. The Australian female participation rate was 58.4% in October 2009.

PARTICIPATION RATE, Trend, South Australia



Incomes



INCOMES

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia increased by 5.1% to \$1,126.10 in the 12 months to August 2009. Nationally, the corresponding increase was higher at 5.4% (up to \$1,201.50).

In the 12 months to August 2009, average weekly full-time earnings in South Australia for males increased by 5.8% to \$1,192.30. Nationally, male average weekly full-time earnings increased 5.9% to \$1,284.10. Female average weekly full-time earnings in South Australia increased by 2.9% to \$1,010.10 in the 12 months to August 2009; much lower than the national increase of 4.5% to \$1,063.40.

FULL-TIME ORDINARY EARNINGS, South Australia: Trend



For information on the wage price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

State Accounts



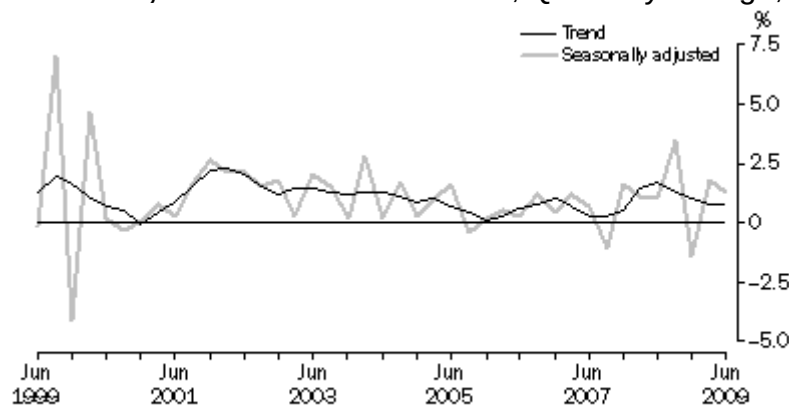
STATE ACCOUNTS

STATE ACCOUNTS

South Australia's June quarter 2009 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$19,436m; an increase of 0.8% from the March quarter 2009 and the strongest quarterly growth of all the states and territories. Australia's Domestic Final Demand fell 0.2% to \$284,685m over this period.

Victoria was the only other state to report growth in State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms during the June quarter 2009 (up 0.6%). Of the other states and territories, the largest decreases for the quarter were reported in the Northern Territory (down 3.4%) and Queensland (down 1.2%).

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures, Quarterly change, South Australia

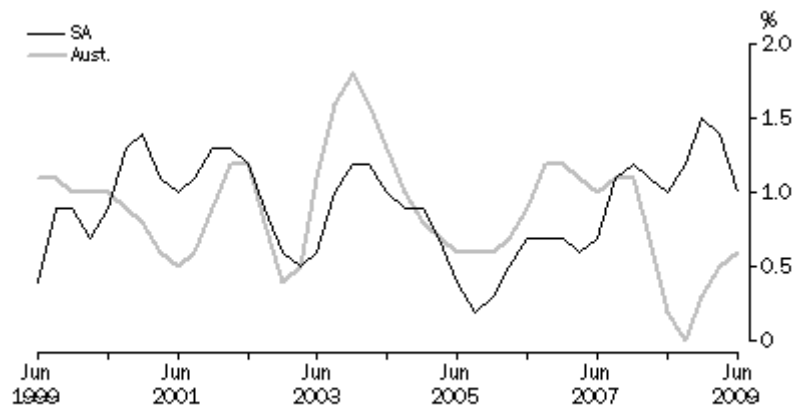


Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE (HFCE)

In chain volume (trend) terms, South Australia's June quarter 2009 HFCE was \$11,518m (7.4% of the national total of \$155,390m). The value of HFCE for South Australia increased by 1.0% between the March and June quarters 2009. At the national level, HFCE increased by 0.6% over the same period. Growth in the value of HFCE has been consistently stronger in South Australia since the December quarter 2007.

HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change

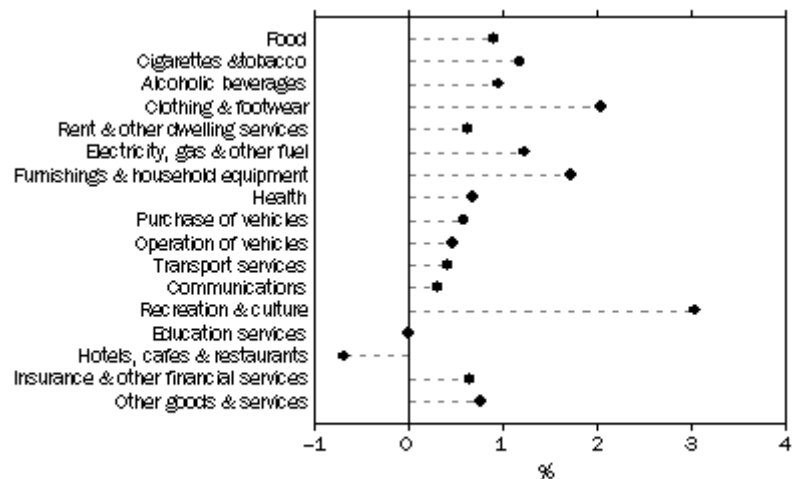


Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

The main contributors to growth in HFCE in South Australia for the June quarter 2009 were Recreation and culture (up 3.0% from the March quarter 2009), Clothing and footwear (up 2.0%), and Furnishings and household equipment (up 1.7%). Expenditure on Hotels, cafes and restaurants was the only category to record a decrease over the same period (down 0.7%).

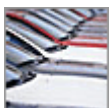
At the national level, expenditure increases were reported for almost all categories with the largest movements recorded in Clothing and footwear (up 1.4% from the March quarter 2009), Insurance and other financial services (up 0.9%), Food (up 0.8%), and Recreation and culture (up 0.8%). Expenditure on cigarettes and tobacco showed no change over this period.

HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change, South Australia - June Quarter 2009



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

Consumption



CONSUMPTION

RETAIL TRADE

Note: New Classification

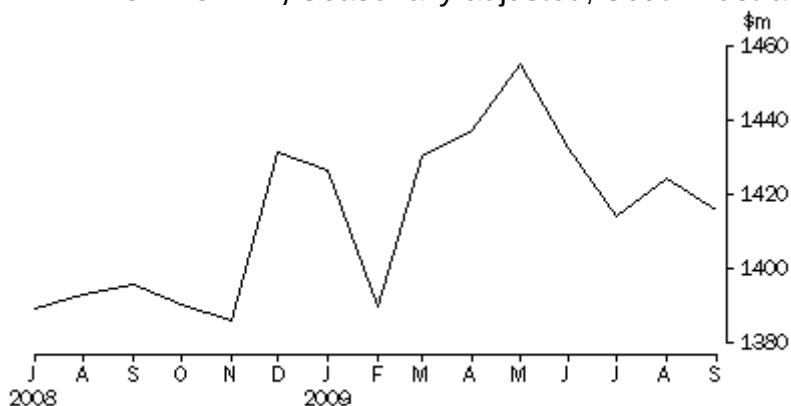
From the July 2009 issue of **Retail Trade, Australia** (cat. no. 8501.0), the series presented in the publication have been compiled and presented according to a revised industry classification, the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 2006 (cat. no. 1292.0). Previous issues of the publication were based on **Australian New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 1993** (cat. no. 1292.0)

The article Changes in Monthly Retail Trade Statistics in the July issue of the publication provided information on the scope of Retail trade statistics under ANZSIC 2006 and the impact on time series and seasonal adjustment.

Further information can also be found in the Information Paper: ANZSIC 2006 Implementation in Retail Trade Statistics, July 2009 (cat. no. 8501.0.55.006).

The September 2009 seasonally adjusted estimate for South Australia's retail turnover was \$1,416.0m, a decrease of 0.6% over the previous month. Nationally retail turnover fell slightly (0.2%) to \$19,719.2m over the same period. South Australia's contribution to total retail turnover in Australia was 7.2%.

RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, South Australia

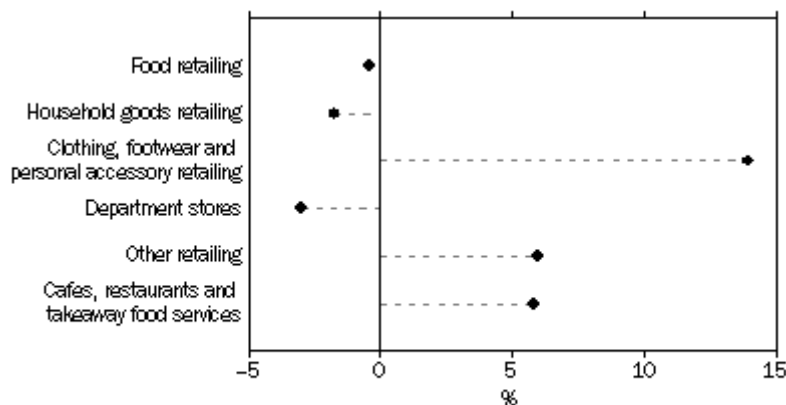


Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

Comparing September 2009 with September 2008, three industry groups recorded increases in retail turnover (in seasonally adjusted terms) in South Australia: Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing rose 13.9% to \$93.0m; Other retailing rose 6.0% to \$212.3m; and Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services rose 5.8% to \$147.6m.

Over the same period, all other industry groups recorded a decline with the largest occurring in Household goods retailing which fell 1.7%.

RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, Change from September 2008 to September 2009, South Australia

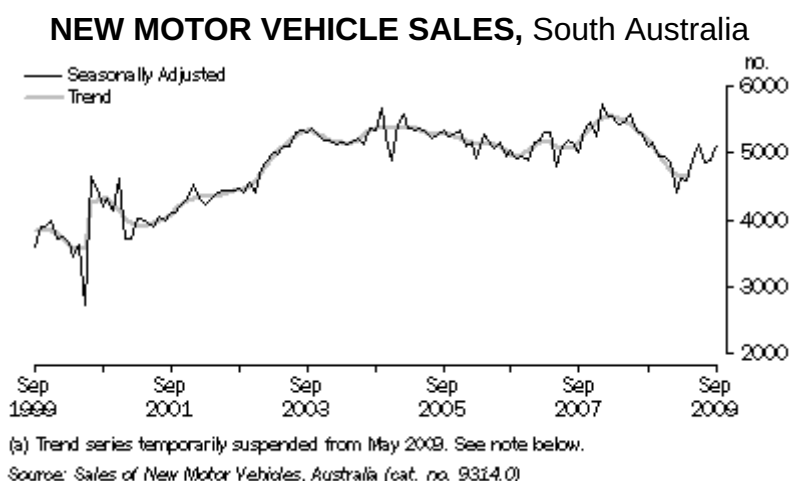


Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In September 2009, 3,140 new passenger vehicles and 5,135 new vehicles in total (in seasonally adjusted terms) were sold in South Australia.

In Australia, 46,186 new passenger vehicles and 77,744 new vehicles in total (in seasonally adjusted terms) were sold in September 2009.



Note: Suspension of Trend Estimates

Following the Federal Government Budget in May 2009, the eligibility period for the Small Business and General Business Tax Break was extended to December 2009. The rebate level was also increased for small businesses, allowing eligible businesses to claim an increased tax deduction on the purchase of new motor vehicles.

The trend series attempts to measure the underlying behaviour in new motor vehicle sales. In the short term, this measurement may be significantly affected by unusual influences in the original and seasonally adjusted data, like those observed in May and June 2009. If the trend estimates in the publication were to be calculated without fully accounting for this irregular event, they would be likely to provide a misleading view of the underlying trend in new motor vehicle sales activity.

The new motor vehicle sales trend series has therefore been suspended from May 2009. The trend series will be reintroduced when more certainty emerges in the underlying

behaviour of new car sales.

Investment



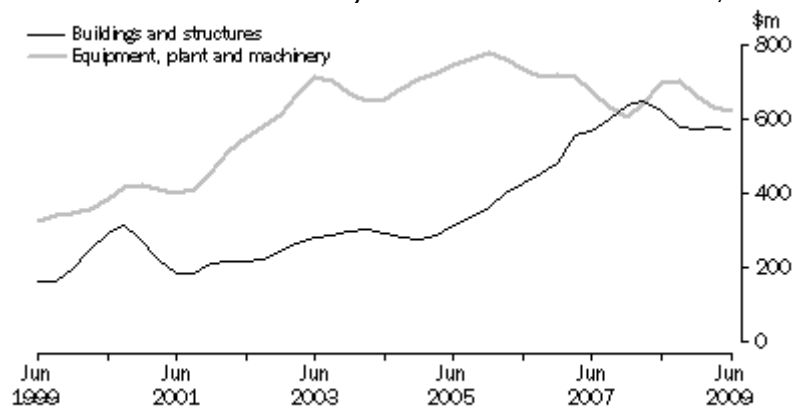
INVESTMENT

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the March and June quarters of 2009, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure fell by 1.7% to \$1,196m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery fell \$13m (2.1%) to \$621m, while expenditure on Buildings and structures fell \$7m (1.2%) to \$576m.

Over the same period, private new capital expenditure for Australia decreased by 0.6% to \$23,925m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery fell by 2.9%, while Buildings and structures expenditure increased slightly (0.9%).

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Chain volume measures, Trend, South Australia



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0)

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

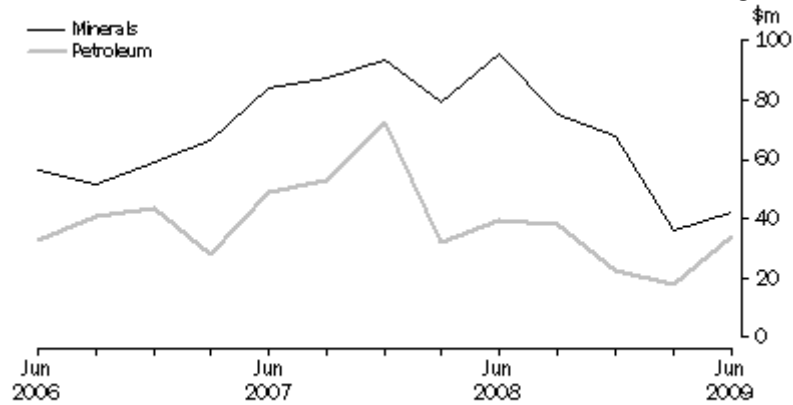
The value of South Australian mineral exploration expenditure (in original terms) was \$41.8m in the June quarter 2009; an increase of 16.0% over the previous quarter but still 56.1% below the peak recorded in the June quarter 2008 (\$95.2m). Australian expenditure on mineral exploration was \$483.5m in the June quarter 2009; an increase of 19.8% from the March quarter estimate (\$403.5m).

Exploration expenditure on Uranium (\$21.7m) accounted for more than half (51.9%) of all South Australian mineral exploration expenditure in the June quarter 2009. A further \$9.6m and \$5.1m were spent on exploration for Gold and Copper, respectively.

Expenditure on petroleum exploration in South Australia almost doubled between the March and June quarters 2009, rising from \$17.9m to \$34.2m over this period. Nationally, expenditure on petroleum exploration rose slightly (1.9%) from \$998.6m to \$1017.4m over

the same period.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Original, South Australia



Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia (cat. no. 8412.0)

Construction



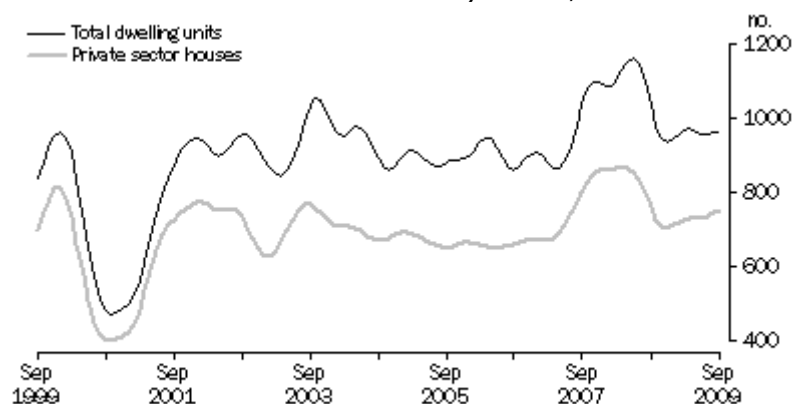
CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING APPROVALS

In September 2009, the total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia (in trend terms) rose slightly to 967. Nationally, the total number of dwelling units approved (in trend terms) rose 2.0% to 12,270 continuing the upward movement that began in February 2009.

The trend estimate for the number of private sector houses approved in South Australia in September 2009 rose slightly to 754.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, Trend, South Australia



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

In the year ended September 2009, the number of dwelling units approved in South Australia fell 17.0%. Decreases occurred across all statistical divisions with the South East Statistical Division recording the largest decrease (30.2%). This follows a 50.3% increase for

this statistical division during the year ended September 2008.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, by Statistical Division, Original, South Australia

	Year ended September 2008		Year ended September 2009	
	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	9 468	26.0	8 055	-14.9
Outer Adelaide	1 786	16.0	1 494	-16.3
Yorke and Lower North	631	25.7	499	-20.9
Murray Lands	528	-20.4	417	-21.0
South East	553	50.3	386	-30.2
Eyre	328	34.4	239	-27.1
Northern	523	22.2	372	-28.9
South Australia	13 817	22.7	11 462	-17.0

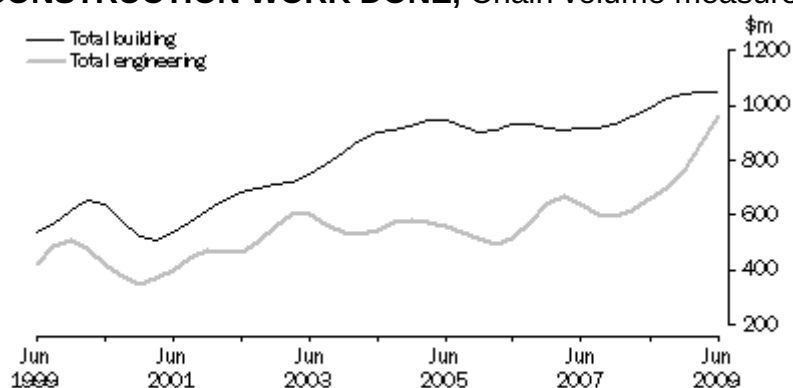
Source: Building Approvals, Australia - data available on request

[Map of South Australia's Statistical Divisions](#) (PDF 2.44MB)

CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE

In the June quarter 2009, the total value of building work done (in trend terms) in South Australia rose slightly to \$1,050.7m, an increase of 0.4% from the March quarter 2009. The trend estimate for the value of engineering work done in the June quarter 2009 was \$964.8m, an increase of 11.8% from the March quarter (\$862.7m). This is the sixth consecutive increase in this series with the June quarter estimate 61.8% higher than the value recorded in the December quarter 2007.

VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE, Chain volume measures - SA: Trend



Source: Building Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8752.0), Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8762.0)

Price Indexes



PRICE INDEXES

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[Consumer price index](#)

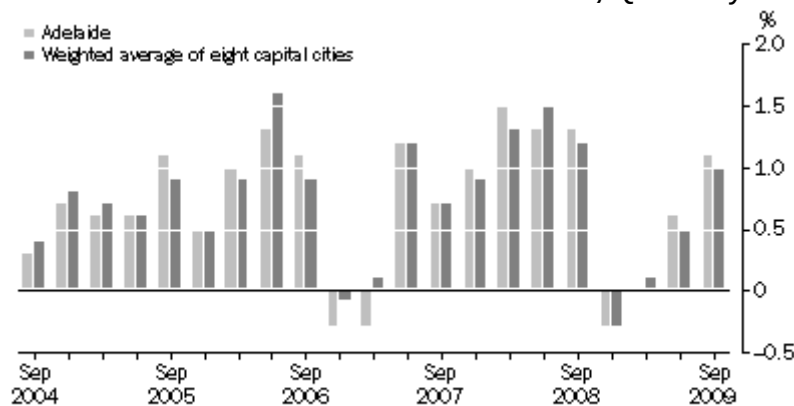
[Wage price index](#)

[House price index](#)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

During the September quarter 2009 the all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide and for the weighted average of the eight capital cities rose by 1.1% and 1.0% respectively.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS, Quarterly change

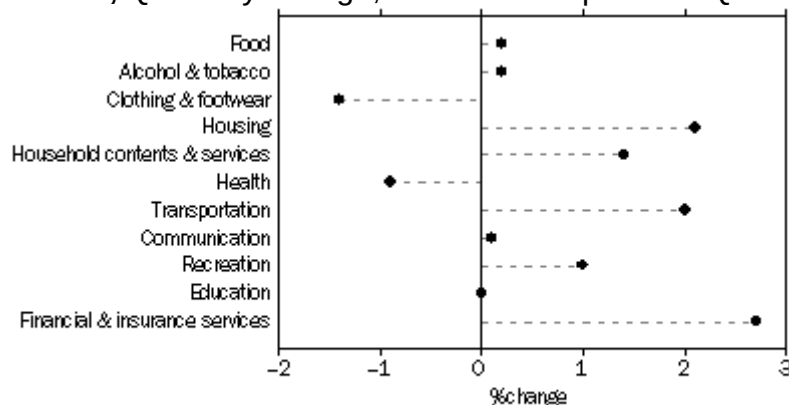


Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

Adelaide's CPI increased by 1.4% in the year ending September quarter 2009, compared with a 1.3% rise for the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

Adelaide's largest percentage increases in prices from the previous quarter were in the areas of Finance and insurance services (2.7%), Housing (2.1%) and Transportation (2.0%). The only decreases in prices from the previous quarter were for Clothing and footwear (-1.4%) and Health (-0.9%).

CPI GROUPS, Quarterly change, Adelaide - September Quarter 2009

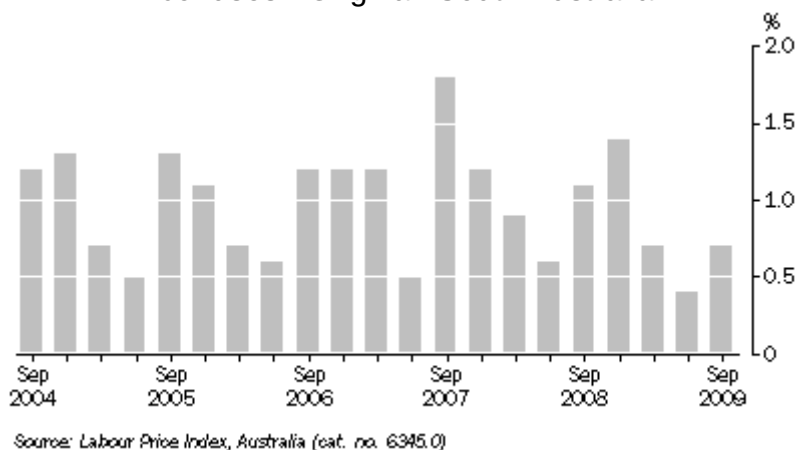


Source: Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

WAGE PRICE INDEX

The wage price index for all employee jobs in South Australia increased by 0.7% (in original terms) between the June and September quarters 2009. This was less than the national increase of 0.9% over the same period.

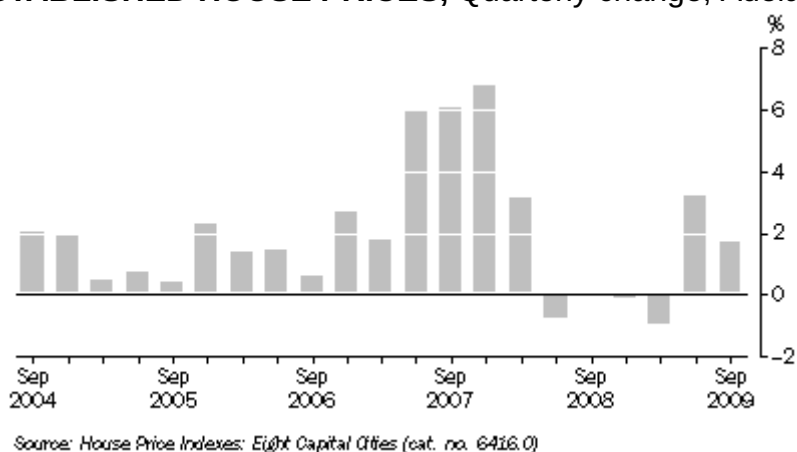
WAGE PRICE INDEX QUARTERLY CHANGES, Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses - Original: South Australia



HOUSE PRICE INDEX

Preliminary estimates show that, for the second consecutive quarter, the price index for established houses for Adelaide (in original terms) has increased with the result for the September quarter 2009 1.7% higher than the previous quarter. Price rises were also recorded in all other capital cities between the June and September quarters 2009 resulting in an increase in the price index for the weighted average of the eight capital cities of 4.2% over this period. Adelaide (1.7%) and Hobart (1.8%) were the capitals with the smallest increases whilst Melbourne (4.7%) recorded the largest increase.

ESTABLISHED HOUSE PRICES, Quarterly change, Adelaide



Over the year to the September quarter 2009, the preliminary estimates show the price index for established houses for Adelaide rose 3.7%, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities increased 6.2%. Darwin (12.3%) and Melbourne (8.4%) recorded the largest increases whilst Adelaide's increase of 3.7% was the lowest of all the capital cities.

Housing Finance

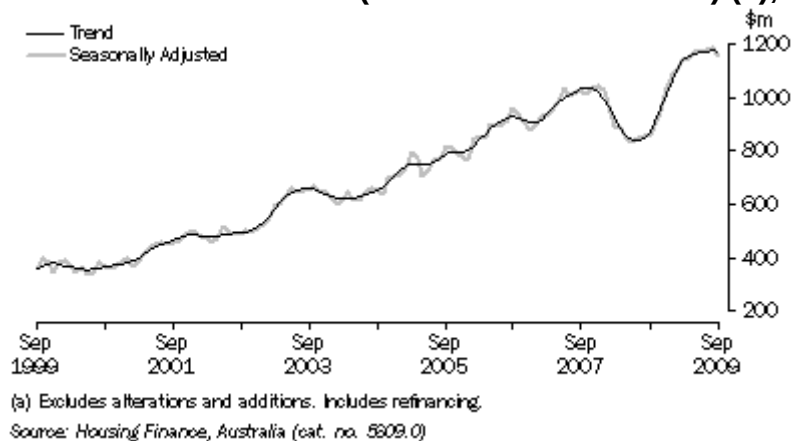


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments (owner occupation) in South Australia in September 2009 was \$1,175m. This series has remained relatively stable since June 2009. Nationally, growth in the value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation has slowed; however, the September 2009 estimate of \$17,141m is still 37% higher than the value for the corresponding month in the previous year (\$12,509m).

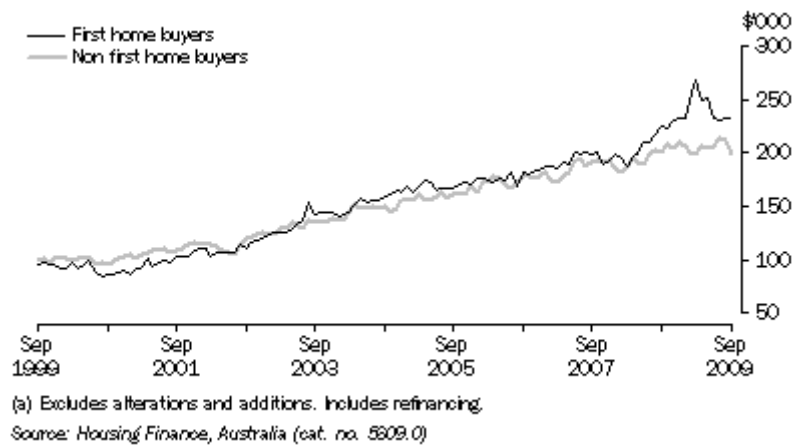
HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), South Australia



In September 2009, the average home loan size for owner occupied dwellings in South Australia was \$205,600; substantially lower than the average home loan size for Australia (\$269,500).

In September 2009, the average loan commitment for first home buyers in South Australia was \$232,800, which was 17.4% higher than the average loan size for non-first home buyers (\$198,300). The average loan commitment of first home buyers is now 13.2% below the peak of March 2009 (\$268,300).

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), Average loan size, Original, South Australia



For information on the house price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

International Merchandise Trade



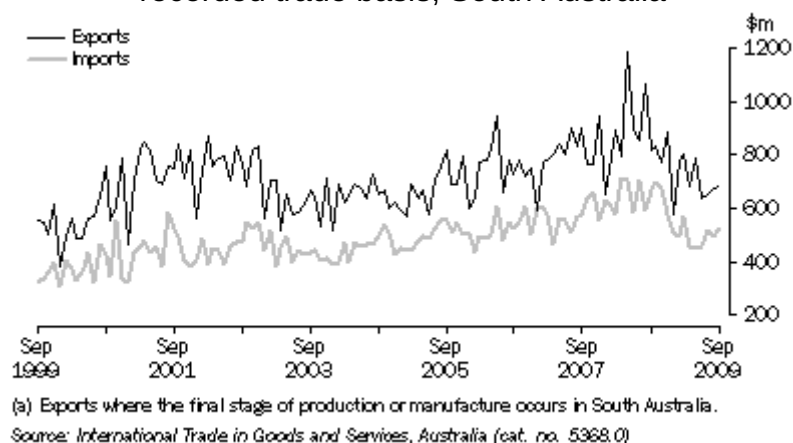
INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

On a recorded trade basis, the value of South Australia's exports in September 2009 was \$683m; a slight increase of 0.4% over August 2009 (\$680m) but still 16.9% lower than the value recorded in September 2008 (\$822m). The value of Australian merchandise exports for September 2009 was \$15,695m, a 27.4% decrease from the corresponding month of the previous year (\$21,630m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports rose 6.7% to \$531m in September 2009. This is 20.3% lower than the value of imports recorded in September 2008 (\$666m). The value of Australian merchandise imports for September 2009 was \$17,637m, a 15.8% decrease from September of the previous year (\$20,946m).

VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (a), on a recorded trade basis, South Australia



Water



WATER

RAINFALL

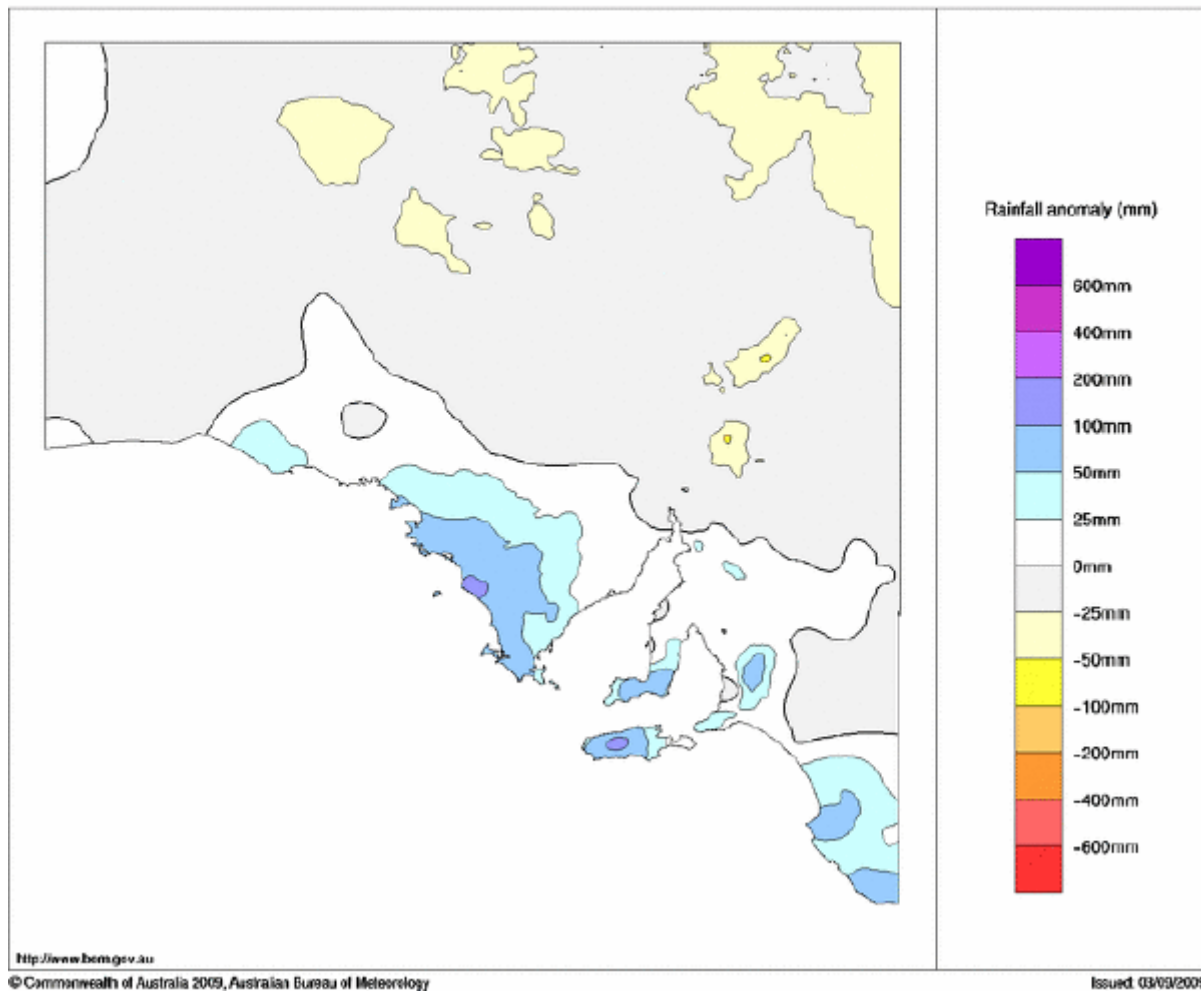
According to the Bureau of Meteorology's Seasonal Climate Summary for South Australia, winter rainfall totals in 2009 were generally near average around the state with most rain falling late June through July.

Exceptions to this were in the pastoral areas with totals below average in the eastern and northern pastoral districts. Within these districts, however, individual locations, such as Yardea with 148mm, recorded large totals due to isolated thunderstorm events.

Above average rainfall results were recorded over the Eyre Peninsula with Streaky Bay, for example, receiving 291mm in the season; 67% above the winter average for the area of 174mm. The lower parts of the Yorke Peninsula, Kangaroo Island and much of the Mount Lofty Ranges also recorded results above average.

Both Growing season (April - October) and Year to date rainfall totals are tracking near average across most of the state.

Rainfall Anomalies

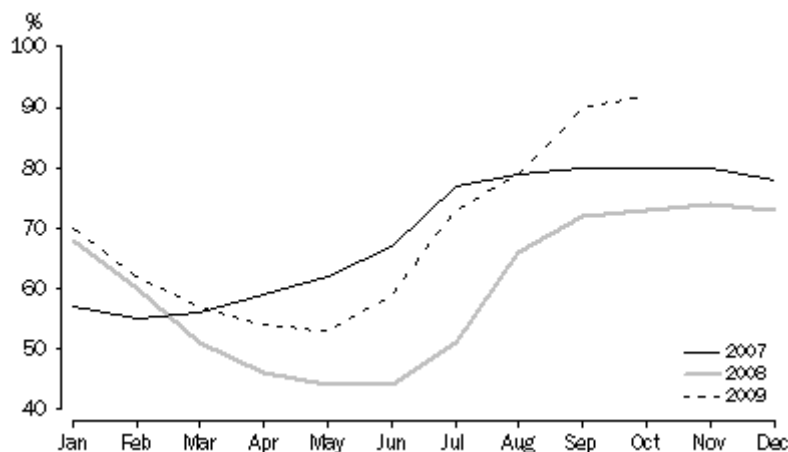


Source: 3-monthly rainfall anomalies for South Australia, Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

RESERVOIR LEVELS

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, rainfall across most of the agricultural districts was below average in October 2009. However, due to the location of South Australian reservoirs, storage capacity is heavily reliant upon rainfall in the Mount Lofty catchment (SA Water). With Forreston (Millers Creek) receiving 92.6mm of rain during October and several other areas within the Mount Lofty catchment area receiving more than 50mm, total water storage reached 92% of capacity by the end of the month. This was substantially more than the volumes of water held in October of the previous 2 years.

TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE, As a percentage of capacity, Adelaide



Source: SA Water daily reservoir levels

About this Release

SA Stats provides an overview of the South Australian population and economy. The publication is updated on a monthly basis, with most releases also featuring an article that provides a South Australian focus on economic, social and environmental issues.

Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

Crime and Safety (Feature Article)

FEATURE ARTICLE: CRIME AND SAFETY

INTRODUCTION

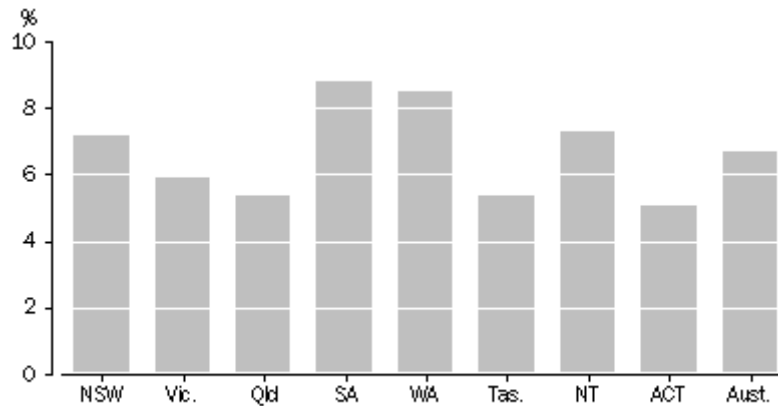
Feelings of safety and security are important determinants in the well-being of individuals and communities. The ABS collects data relating to perceptions of crime, safety, and neighbourhood problems through a variety of surveys including the **General Social Survey (2006)**, **Crime and Safety Survey (2005)** and **Personal Safety Survey (2005)**. This article presents a comparison of the perceptions of crime and safety that are held by South Australians with those of the broader Australian community and highlights some factors that have the potential to influence perceptions. Further, it examines the relationship between perceptions of safety and the actual incidence of crime in South Australia.

PERCEPTIONS OF CRIME AND SAFETY

People's perception of their level of safety is one factor which can influence how they feel about the area where they live. Information about people's perceptions of safety was collected by the ABS through the 2006 General Social Survey (GSS).

The GSS asked people to indicate how safe they felt at home alone after dark. The proportion of South Australians who indicated that they felt either unsafe or very unsafe (8.8%) was significantly higher than the national proportion (6.7%). Further, the South Australian result was higher than for any other state or territory in Australia.

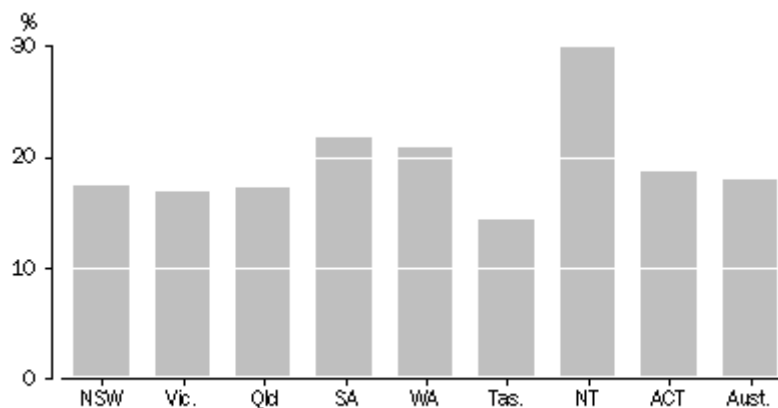
FEELING UNSAFE/VERY UNSAFE AT HOME ALONE AFTER DARK - 2006



Source: General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 4159.0)

The proportion of South Australians who indicated that they felt either unsafe or very unsafe when walking alone in a local area after dark (21.8%) was also significantly higher than the national figure (17.9%). The figure for South Australia was higher than for any other state except for the Northern Territory, where nearly one third (30.0%) of people indicated that they felt unsafe or very unsafe.

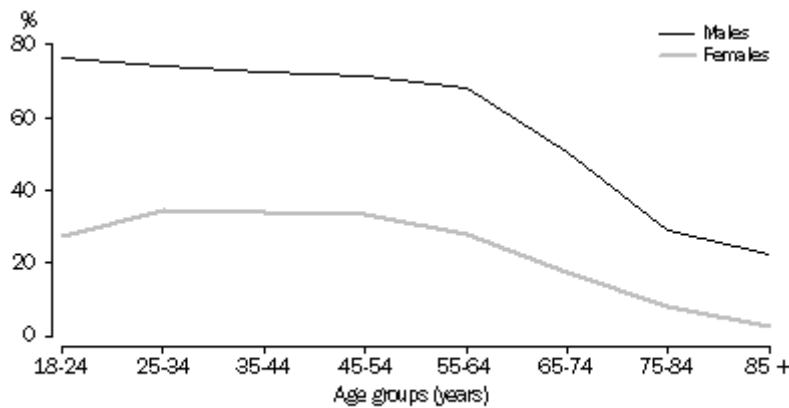
FEELING UNSAFE/VERY UNSAFE WALKING ALONE IN LOCAL AREA AFTER DARK - 2006



Source: General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 4159.0)

According to the Australian Institute of Criminology there are a number of factors that can influence how safe people feel. These include age, sex, whether or not they have been a victim of crime previously, media exposure, and income level. Whilst the GSS did not ask people why they felt unsafe it is possible to look at results by age and sex at the national level. Feelings of safety for males and females decreased markedly with age when walking alone at night. Further the results show that females in general tend to feel less safe than men.

FEELINGS OF SAFETY WHEN WALKING ALONE AT NIGHT, SA - 2006



Source: General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia, 2006 (cat. no. 4159.0)

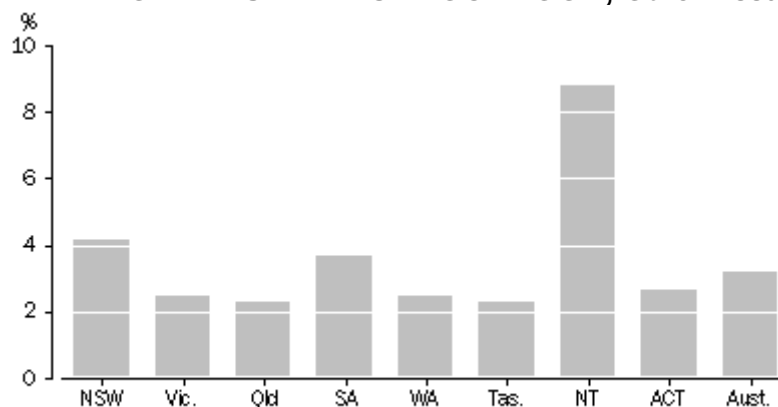
PERCEIVED PROBLEMS IN NEIGHBOURHOOD

In addition to the factors mentioned above, the Australian Institute of Criminology also listed environmental considerations (i.e. the physical and social aspects of one's neighbourhood) and neighbourhood change as having the potential to influence a person's feelings of safety. The Crime and Safety Survey (CSS) collects information on the perceptions of South Australians regarding the types of crimes that they perceive as being problems in their neighbourhoods.

In 2005 three out of four South Australians (76%) perceived there were problems in their neighbourhood compared to 70% of people nationally. The problems ranged from neighbourhood "incivilities" such as litter, graffiti and vandalism to the more serious personal crimes of non-sexual and sexual assault.

Looking at the more personal neighbourhood crimes, Other assault (i.e. non-sexual assault) was perceived to be a problem by 3.7% of South Australians as compared to 3.2% of all Australians. South Australia's proportion was higher than for all the other states and territories with the exception of the Northern Territory (8.8%) and New South Wales (4.2%).

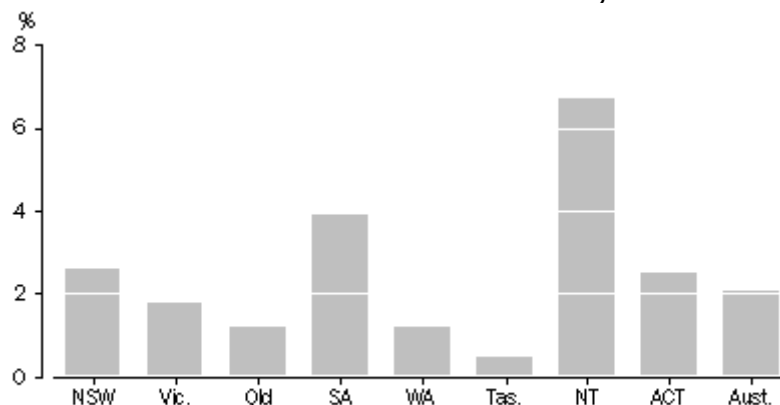
PERCEIVED PROBLEMS IN NEIGHBOURHOOD, Other Assault - 2005



Source: Crime and Safety, Australia, 2005 (cat.no. 4509.0)

The proportion of South Australians who perceived that sexual assault was a problem in their neighbourhood (3.9%) was higher than the figure for Australia as a whole (2.1%). Furthermore, the South Australian figure was higher than for all other states with the exception of the Northern Territory (6.7%).

PERCEIVED PROBLEMS IN NEIGHBOURHOOD, Sexual Assault - 2005



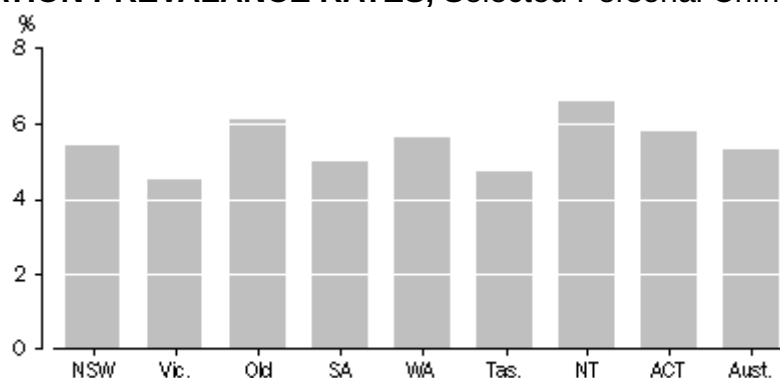
Source: Crime and Safety, Australia, 2005 (cat. no. 4509.0)

INCIDENCE OF CRIME VICTIMISATION

Assault and sexual assault are crimes against the person that have large impacts upon not only the victims but also their family, friends and the wider community. As shown previously, South Australians perceive these crimes to be more of a problem in their neighbourhoods than they are perceived to be by people in most other states. However, with people's perceptions influenced by factors such as experience and/or knowledge of a previous attack and media coverage it may be that the extent or threat of the crime is overstated. Hence an analysis of the actual incidence of selected personal crimes (including assault and sexual assault as components) was conducted.

In spite of their perceptions of assault and sexual assault being problems in their neighbourhoods, South Australian respondents to the 2005 Crime and Safety Survey reported having been victims of personal crime at a rate that was slightly lower than that for Australia (5.0% compared with 5.3%). The South Australian personal crime victimisation prevalence rate was lower than most other States and Territories, but was slightly higher than those for Victoria (4.5%) and Tasmania (4.7%).

VICTIMISATION PREVALANCE RATES, Selected Personal Crimes (a) - 2005



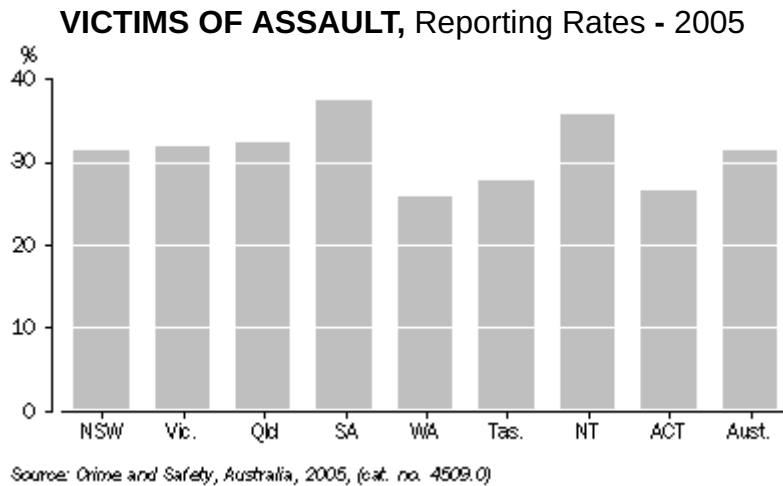
(a) Robbery, assault and sexual assault

Source: Crime and Safety, Australia, 2005 (cat. no. 4509.0)

From the Crime and Safety Survey the personal crime victimisation prevalence rate for South Australia has increased from 4.5% in 1998 to 4.9% (2002) and 5.0% (2005). Over this period, the personal crime victimisation prevalence rates for South Australia have been consistently lower than for Australia. Despite the perception held by South Australians that they are more unsafe than the nation as a whole, actual personal crime victimisation rates in

South Australia are relatively low compared to those for other states and the country.

Respondents to the April 2005 Crime and Safety survey who had been victims of assault were asked if they had reported these crimes to police. Over one third (37.4%) of South Australian victims of assault indicated that they had done so, compared to 31.4% in Australia. The reporting rate in South Australia was slightly higher than that recorded for any other state.



CONCLUSION

More South Australians felt unsafe in their homes, and reported a higher perception of personal crimes occurring in their neighbourhoods when compared to most other states. However, despite having the highest crime reporting rate, statistics on victimisation of assault and sexual assault show levels within South Australia that are generally lower than those for the rest of Australia.

REFERENCES

ABS 2006 General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia (cat. no 4159.0)

ABS 2005 Crime and Safety, Australia (cat. no. 4509.0)

ABS 2005 Personal Safety, Australia (cat. no. 4906.0)

Australian Institute of Criminology 1995 Trends and Issues in crime and criminal justice: No. 44 'Fear of Crime and Fear Reduction Strategies', P.N. Grabosky viewed 12 November 2009 <<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/tandi/41-60/tandi44.aspx>>